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T.R.A. DOCKET ROOM

January 15, 2004

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Chairman Deborah Taylor Tate Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37243-0505 <u>Via Federal Express</u> <u>Priority Overnight Delivery</u>

Re: Petition of Atmos Energy Corporation for Approval of Franchise Agreements with Williamson County and Johnson City, Tennessee

Docket No. 03-00520

Dear Chairman Tate:

Please find enclosed the original and fourteen copies of each of the following documents for filing in the above-referenced matter:

- (1) Direct Testimony of Michael K. West;
- (2) Direct Testimony of Denise Manning; and
- (3) Direct Testimony of Rogers Anderson.

Please stamp the extra copies "filed" and return them to me in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this filing.

JAC:klc Enclosures

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BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE: PETITION OF ATMOS ENERGY)	T.R.A. DOUKET ROOM
CORPORATION FOR APPROVAL OF)	A CONTRACTOR
FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS WITH)	
WILLIAMSON COUNTY AND)	Docket No 03-00520
JOHNSON CITY, TENNESSEE)	

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF ROGERS ANDERSON

- Q: Please state your name and title.
- A: My name is Rogers Anderson. I am the County Mayor of Williamson County.
- Q: What is the purpose of your testimony?
- A The purpose of my testimony is to provide information to support the petition filed by Atmos Energy Corporation for the approval of the License Agreement conveying a franchise from Williamson County to Atmos.
- Q: Were you involved in the negotiations between Williamson County and Atmos over the terms of the License Agreement which is presently pending before the Authority for approval?
- A: Yes, I was involved in the negotiation process along with the attorneys representing Williamson County. The existing agreement between Williamson County and Atmos did not provide for any compensation for use of Williamson County's right of ways. In discussions with Atmos, it became apparent that Atmos was also interested in extending the License Agreement term which was then set to expire in 2007. Accordingly, there were several discussions with Atmos concerning the terms and conditions of a new License Agreement which would include a fee. The License Agreement, which contains the franchise, went through several drafts before the parties agreed to the final version which is presently pending before the Authority for approval. The new agreement grants Atmos a license for a fifteen year period and imposes a five percent (5%) fee on the annual gross revenues received by Atmos from the sale of natural gas to customers located within the unincorporated areas of Williamson County. It is my understanding that this fee is within the reasonable range of fee percentages previously approved by the Authority in other jurisdictions served by Atmos.

- Q: In your opinion, is the continued operation by Atmos under the License Agreement submitted for approval to the Authority in this proceeding in the public interest?
- A: Yes, the License Agreement which grants the franchise to Atmos is necessary and proper for the public convenience and properly serves and protects the public interest of the citizens of Williamson County, Tennessee. As an authorized representative of Williamson County, I encourage the Authority to approve the License Agreement.

No further questions.

Rogers Anderson, County Mayor of Williamson County, Tennessee

Sworn to and subscribed before menutary P. Gloothis 12[™] day of January, 200 strike P. Gloothis

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Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

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